

THE SENATE

RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT

REFERENCES COMMITTEE

Senator the Hon John Hogg President of the Senate Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Inquiry into the Import Risk Analysis (IRA) for the importation of Cavendish bananas from the Philippines

Interim Report

Pursuant to standing order 38(7), I present an interim report of the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee's inquiry into the Import Risk Analysis (IRA) for the importation of Cavendish bananas from the Philippines.

The Senate referred this inquiry to the Committee on 27 November 2008, for report on 14 May 2009. The Senate extended the reporting date to 22 May 2009.

The committee advertised the inquiry in *The Australian* and invited submissions from peak bodies and state and Commonwealth governments. The committee received ten public submissions and one in-camera submission and held three incamera hearings.

To ensure that the issues raised during the inquiry are thoroughly considered and appropriately addressed, the committee will present its final report on 25 June 2009.

Senator Fiona Nash Chair

22 May 2009